STATE OF COLORADO

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

130 State Capitol Denver, Colorado 80203-1792 Phone: (303) 866-2087 www.colorado.gov/ltgovernor/



FOR RELEASE:

February 13, 2004

303-866-3125

CONTACT: Garrett Groves

NORTON PROMOTES STATE'S ECONOMY AT D.C. MEETING

(WASHINGTON D.C.) – A productive three day trip to Washington D.C. shined light on economic opportunities in and for Colorado.

Lieutenant Governor Jane Norton met with two international ambassadors, a White House Cabinet member, and about a half-dozen other individuals regarding trade and tourism opportunities for the state. Discussion hit on things states can do in regard to gaming, agritourism, promotion of heritage and culture as part of tourism, and federal monies that may become available to the states and territories in the coming months.

"By far, the opportunity to sit down and talk to United States Commerce Secretary Don Evans for an hour at the White House gave me insight to some specific issues affecting our states and some opportunities coming down the line," said Norton.

U.S. General John Gordon, The President's Advisor on Homeland Security also briefed Norton. Norton was in Washington D.C. February 10 - 13, 2004, at the National Lieutenant Governors Association. Thirty lieutenant governors from around the nation attended. "We meet in a completely bi-partisan fashion to share ideas that can benefit all our states," Norton said.

"From colleagues at this meeting, I heard about several ways the state can assist our military families now in service," said Norton. "I also received information on a way to assist our police officers in obtaining life-saving bullet-proof vests and I got a briefing from two of my colleagues on their recent mission to Cuba and Iraq, respectively."

In meeting sessions, all NLGA members heard remarks on the natural gas problems facing the nation and they heard debate on the possibility of importing prescription drugs from Canada. The members met with the U.S. Ambassadors from the countries of Lithuania and Austria, as well as several U.S. Congresspersons and Senators.

The members also debated five policy resolutions and visited with members of Colorado's Congressional Delegation. The governors hold a meeting in Washington D.C. February 21 - 24, 2004.